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## MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS.

THE violin performance of Herr Joachim has been the great attraction at these concerts; and indeed we doubt whether he is not this season playing with more consummate mastery over his instrument, and a deeper appreciation of his music, than on any former occasion. At the concert on the 12th inst., the *Kreutzer* Sonata of Beethoven (with Madame Arabella Goddard at the pianoforte) was most perfectly rendered, as was also Spohr's *Barcarolle* and *Scherzo*, with pianoforte accompaniment. The music, although possessing no novelty, has been carefully selected, and the concerts have been invariably well attended. Madame Arabella Goddard and Mr. Charles Hallé have been the pianists.

## GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION.

MR. JOHN PARRY has lately added another phase of *Roseleaf* life to the inimitable scenes which he has already given. An artist, in every sense of the term, the delicate touches of playful satire in his new sketch of the *Wedding Breakfast* convulse with laughter not only those cynics who love to ridicule the every-day little absurdities of social life, but the very persons who are themselves satirized. To his exceedingly clever imitation of the guests assembled at the wedding breakfast, Mr. Parry adds some of those extraordinary feats of pianoforte *speaking* (if we may use the term) in which he is unrivalled; and we counsel all who love a really refined entertainment not to miss the opportunity of being present at Mrs. Roseleaf's wedding party. Those who have passed through the ordeal will laugh heartily at the reminiscence, whilst "persons about to marry" will see what they have to expect.

## MUSICAL SOCIETY.

THE first concert of the season took place on the 7th ult., when this unrivalled orchestra again asserted its supremacy by a marvellous execution of Beethoven's Symphony in C minor. Berlioz's weak overture to *King Lear*, a clever, but unequal, clarionet solo, by Silas (beautifully executed by Mr. Lazarus), and a *Scena* by Rubenstein, sung by Madame Parepa, were amongst the novelties, the last named composition having a distinctive merit which should claim for it a place in the repertoire of any vocalist possessing, like Madame Parepa, sufficient voice and dramatic power to do it the justice it deserves. That clever pianist Miss Agnes Zimmermann played Sterndale Bennett's elegant *caprice* in E major in a style so thoroughly artistic as to create a profound impression upon the audience, and to convince those who dare to think for themselves that the Royal Academy of Music (in which institution she was educated) can still produce executants worthy of its former reputation. The concert was conducted by Mr. Alfred Mellon in his usual admirable style.

## SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.

THE performance of Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, on the 2nd ult., attracted a large audience, notwithstanding the indisposition of Mr. Sims Reeves. His place was supplied by Mr. Cummings, who is always a ready and satisfactory substitute for the popular tenor. The choruses were exceedingly steady; and we have indeed rarely heard a more satisfactory performance of the Oratorio. The principal vocalists, besides Mr. Cummings, were Madame Parepa, Miss Robertine Henderson, Miss Julia Derby, Madame Sainton-Dolby, and Mr. Weiss. The *Creation* has also been given with the utmost success during the past month.

## MR. HENRY LESLIE'S CHOIR.

MR. LESLIE'S second concert, on the 1st ult., was strictly a sacred one, and included many choral compositions eminently calculated to test the capabilities of the choir. Palestrina's *Sanctus*, from the *Missa Papa Marcelli*, is a fine specimen of a style which seems to stand alone in its simple grandeur, even in the present day; and the *Kyrie* of Leo, and Psalm of Marcellus were exceedingly welcome samples of an earnest school of writing which belonged to an age in which the church absorbed the genius of the time, and composers regarded their works as devotional offerings to their Creator. No better specimen of comparatively modern church music could have been offered than Wesley's Motett, "In exitu Israel," which was exceedingly well given; and if, in listening to this composition, we are struck with the cold and formal nature of its construction, nobly as it is written, it only more forcibly illustrates that where the deeply religious feeling which underlies all the undying sacred works, is wanting, no composition (however skilful may be its workmanship) can bring the listener to that sense of true devotion which should be the aim of all music written for the church. A curious instance of this happened to be provided in the solo from Costa's *Naaman*, "I dreamt I was in heaven" (beautifully sung by Miss Whytock) which, compared with Mendelssohn's Soprano Solo, "Jerusalem," in *St. Paul*, becomes actually secular music, although written to words as sacred as can well be imagined.

Whether the cold weather had produced any effect upon the voices under Mr. Leslie's direction we know not, but certainly the singing was not, on the whole, equal to that at the first concert, the tenors in the selection from Gounod's Mass for male voices, being most unquestionably out of tune, a defect rarely to be found even in the most elaborate music executed by this choir. Mr. Leslie's Motett, "I will extol thee," (carefully accompanied on the harp and organ by Mr. John Thomas and Mr. J. C. Ward) was exceedingly well rendered by Madame Lemmens-Sherrington and Miss Whytock—the latter lady receiving an enthusiastic *encore* in her solo—and her

the choral parts were thoroughly satisfactory. Mr. Sims Reeves was again absent, from indisposition, and his place was supplied by Mr. Leigh Wilson, who seems to be gradually establishing himself as a favourite. The concert was extremely well attended, and appeared to give the most unqualified satisfaction to the audience. At the third concert, on the 22nd ult., the novelty of an orchestra was introduced, and Beethoven's Mass in C was given, the principal vocal parts being sustained by Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Madame Sainton-Dolby, Mr. W. H. Cummings and Mr. Patey. On the whole, this noble composition went well; but we still incline to the belief that the delicate part-music in which this choir originally made its name, should form the staple of Mr. Leslie's programmes. The points of attack in the Fugue, "Cum sancto spiritu," were somewhat tame; but this in a great measure arose from the movement being started too fast, a fault which fatally obscures the beauty and clearness of sacred music. There was little novelty in the programme. Gounod's Psalm, "By Babylon's wave," and the Carol, *Bethlehem*, were well sung, and the latter was as usual *encored*. An effective selection from Mr. Leslie's Oratorio, *Immanuel*, also formed part of the programme, (the beautifully written Quartett "Take heed, watch and pray," being enthusiastically re-demanded), and mention must also be made of Handel's "Let the bright Seraphim," sung by Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, if only to say, what we have so often said before, that Mr. T. Harper's trumpet *obligato* is not only a marvel of perfect execution, but of the most refined musical feeling. Two unaccompanied Anthems by Mendelssohn, "Thou Lord our refuge," and "Above all praise," were excellently rendered; and the concert concluded with two movements from Mozart's Litany in B flat.

THE prospectuses of the two Italian Operas contain, as usual, the most brilliant announcements. At Her Majesty's Theatre we are promised Glück's *Iphigenia in Tauris*, (a work which Mr. Mapleson reminds us, in its day, shook Paris "to its foundations.") Spontini's *La Vestale*, Mozart's *Il Seraglio*, and other works familiar to opera-goers, but new to Her Majesty's Theatre. Most of the favourite vocalists identified with the establishment will sing during the season; and several new ones will make their first appearance, amongst whom we may mention Madlle. Louisa Lichtmav, Madame Demerich Lablache, Signor Arvini, and Mr. Hohler. We are sorry to find that Madame Grisi intends to risk her reputation by again appearing—or as the Lessee more poetically words it, "to re-visit the scenes of her early triumphs,"—but there will no doubt be many to welcome one whose name has been so long associated with some of the most popular characters on the lyric stage. Mr. Gye's programme contains a host of Operas to be performed during the season, but only two—Ricci's *Crispino e La Comare*, and Donizetti's *Don Sebastiano*, which have never been heard in England. The audience is expected again to sit in judgment upon a number of untried vocalists; but, failing their success, there is a strong company of those already established, including the name of that consummate artist M. Faure, who has not appeared here for two years. We are glad to welcome such satisfactory announcements as are contained in these two prospectuses; but must protest against the ill-judged and fulsome adulation which accompanies the name of almost every artist engaged, and every opera to be produced.

THE Anniversary Festival of the Royal Society of Musicians will take place on the 18th inst., at the Freemasons' Tavern, President of the day, John Duke Coleridge, Esq., Q.C.M.P. Many of the most eminent artists have volunteered their services on the occasion.

THE Wind Instrument Band of Messrs. Broadwood's Manufactory had a Concert at the Pimlico Rooms, on Tuesday evening, the 8th ult. In addition to their performances, conducted by their able bandmaster, Mr. H. Sibold, a number of vocal and instrumental pieces by excellent artists were given. Madlle. Nina Dario, a remarkably brilliant soprano, Madame D'Este Finlayson, and Miss Lucy Franklin, a young contralto of much promise, were each *encored*, an honour also accorded to Miss Eleanor Ward for her solos on the piano. Miss Fanny Haldane sang the Welsh song from *Henry IV.* with pure expression and taste. Messrs. Welsh, Oxley, Weldon, and Edmonds were included in the vocal part of the programme. Herr Louis Ries gained great applause for his rendering of a violin fantasia on old English airs; and Mr. Walter Bache's performance on the piano of Liszt's *Faust* was no less successful. Mr. F. Bowerman displayed talent in a cornet solo. Mr. M. Higgs and Mr. Hipkins officiated as conductors.

A CONCERT of miscellaneous music was given at the Music Hall, Store-street, on the 26th February, by Mr. W. H. Davies's Choir. The programme contained several songs, part-songs, glees, &c. The principal vocalists were Misses Rosa Paine, Vice, Durly, and Walsh, Messrs. Bush, Bridge, and Lawrence. Miss Elizabeth Stirling presided at the pianoforte, and the concert afforded the most satisfaction to a large audience.

THE Annual Concert of the Jewin Crescent Welsh Choral Society, in aid of the Chapel Building Fund, took place on Tuesday evening, Feb. 28, in the chapel, Jewin Crescent. Handel's *Messiah* was chosen for performance, with Mr. Peters as conductor, and the choir was assisted by several excellent voices from other Welsh societies in London. In the chorus singing, "Behold the Lamb of God," "All we like sheep," and "Lift up your heads," were especially worthy of remark; but the singers seemed to reserve their power for the "Hallelujah Chorus," which they gave with the greatest precision and the most telling effect, giving ample evidence

of the excellent training which they had received from Mr. Peters. The solos were allotted to Misses Palmer Lisle and Annie Cox, Master Davies, Mr. D. Rosser (Tenor), and Mr. J. Evans (Bass). In the airs, "He shall feed His flock," and "He was despised," Miss Lisle sang with much pathos and feeling. To Master Davies, however, were awarded the honours of the evening, being encored in "How beautiful are the feet," and also singing the air "If God is for us," in a style but rarely heard from so youthful a vocalist. In the tenor airs, Mr. Rosser sang well, but was evidently not in good voice. In the bass solos, "Why do the nations," and "The trumpet shall sound," Mr. Evans shewed his fine voice and effective method of singing to the best advantage, and was most deservedly applauded. The chapel was filled with a most respectable and appreciative audience, and we must congratulate the Society upon the success of their first performance of an oratorio.

A CONCERT of Mr. B. Congreve's Choir was given at St. Luke's School Rooms on the 6th ult., when a number of choral compositions were effectively rendered by the members. Several solos were also given, the principal vocalists being Misses Spence and Wand, Messrs. W. and D. Congreve, and Mr. Robson.

Miss E. Stirling gave a very successful Concert at Burdett Hall, Burdett Road, Limehouse, on the 12th ult. Principal vocalists, Madame Talbot Chere, Miss Palmer, Miss Rosa Stuart, Mr. W. J. Fielding, Mr. T. Rogers, Mr. Lewis Thomas, and The Quartette Glee Union. Violin, Mr. F. Ralph. Pianoforte, Miss E. Stirling. Conductor, Mr. F. A. Bridge.

SCHUBERT SOCIETY.—A Society for the study and practice of vocal music by comparatively unknown composers, has been established at the Beethoven Rooms, Harley Street, and meets every Thursday evening, under the leadership of Mr. Edward Schubert, one of a well known musical family, whose name is familiar to the musical world. This society has, as yet, given great satisfaction to all the members, and promises to become of some importance in musical circles.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

\*.\* Notices of concerts and other information supplied by our friends in the country, must be forwarded as early as possible after the occurrence; otherwise they cannot be inserted. Our correspondents must specifically denote the date of each concert, for without such date no notice can be taken of the performance. All communications must be authenticated by the proper name and address of the writer.

Our Correspondents will greatly oblige by writing all names as clearly as possible, as we cannot be responsible for any mistakes which may occur.

We cannot undertake to return offered contributions; the authors, therefore, will do well to retain copies.

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J. J. H.—The Anthem, "O Lord, my God," is composed by the Rev. C. Mlam (as was stated in the Musical Times); and we have every reason to believe that it is copyright.

M. A. S.—The Offertorium "Gratias Agimus," by Guglielmi, is published by Messrs. Novello. The publishers of Schumann's music are Schott, Ewer, and Lamborn Cock and Co.

A Subscriber.—The question is too trivial to be answered in a musical journal. The publisher of the Opera is the only person who can positively furnish the information.

A Student wishes to know whether Mr. Jackson's (of Masham) Singing Class Manual is used by any Singing Class near the City.

#### Brief Summary of Country News.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for any opinions expressed in this Summary; as all the notices are either collated from the local papers, or supplied to us by occasional correspondents.

ASHFORD.—The Ashford Choral Society gave its first Concert on the 8th ult. There was an excellent attendance, including most of the fashionable residents of the neighbourhood. The professional vocalists engaged were Mr. Frank Elmore and Miss Lizzie Wilson, the trios, quartetts and choruses, being sustained by members of the Society. Almost without exception the pieces were well executed; and, allowing for the short time the Society has existed, the choruses were steady. Mr. Elmore, though suffering from cough, sang exceedingly well, and in "Airy fairy Lillian" Tennyson's pretty song, to which he had composed some effective music, he was rapturously encored, as he was also in some of his previous songs. The Soprano we cannot praise: indeed she was far eclipsed by some of the native talent; the solo, "As pants the hart," sung by Mrs. T. Bunyard, being more than worthy the ovation it received. Great praise is due to the leadership of Mr. Legge, who also gave some solos with much effect.

ATHERTON.—On the 6th February, a Concert of vocal and instrumental music was given by the Atherton Church Choir, in the National School-rooms, and proved a decided success. The concert was conducted by Mr. James Croft, organist of Atherton church. The principal vocalists were Miss Alice Hope, Mr. Manley, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tyldesley, and Mr. Seddon.

BAGSHOT.—The opening of the fine Organ at St. Ann's Chapel was an event of considerable local interest, and attracted a large number of the resident gentry and clergy of the neighbourhood. The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of the Diocese (Winchester) attended to hold the opening service. Mr. Edmonds, of Wellington College, kindly presided at the Organ on the occasion, and performed his duty with the utmost taste and judgment. The instrument was built by Mr. H. Speechly, of Great College-street and Queen-street, Camden Town, and is of the most approved construction, the whole of the workmanship being of a first-class description. The possession of this organ is mainly owing to the unwearied exertions of the Misses Mears, who have laboured most strenuously in the cause; and so successful have they been that nearly the whole amount of the cost of the instrument (about £200) has been collected.

BANBURY.—We very much regret to say that the grand Concert by Mr. J. H. Collins, the district choirmaster, which took place on the 8th ult., proved a great failure, the attendance being so small that the loss to him must be considerable. This is all the more to be regretted as the whole performance was most decidedly above the average of the concerts given in Banbury, and several of the songs were as decidedly of a superior character. We sincerely hope again to hear Mr. Collins, and those whom his good taste and judgment may select to assist him, and that under conditions which will ensure him the support and patronage to which his musical talents, and position as district choirmaster, entitle him.

BARNES.—Mr. G. H. Stevens (organist of the Parish Church) gave a performance of Handel's Oratorio, the *Messiah*, with full band accompaniment, on Friday evening the 9th ult., in the Earl of Lonsdale's Riding House (by his lordship's kind permission), in aid of the funds of the Barnes Working Men's Club. The band and chorus numbered 120 performers. The principal vocalists were Madame Germaine, Miss E. Russell, Messrs. Hammond, Cockton, and Pittman. The music was well performed, and gave great satisfaction to an audience of at least 800. Mr. Grimeson led the band. Miss Garrett presided at the pianoforte, and Mr. Horner at the harmonium. Mr. G. H. Stevens conducted with his usual ability; and by his kindness the funds of the Working Men's Club have been considerably increased; this being the second time this season that he has given performances in its aid.

BOLTON.—The members of the Bolton Philharmonic Society gave a Concert on the 7th ult., in the Concert Hall. The principal piece of the evening was Romberg's Cantata, *The Lay of the Bell*, which was, on the whole, very creditably performed. Mr. Alfred Wroe and Mr. Henry Taylor, upon whom the principal solos fell, acquitting themselves in a highly satisfactory manner. In the second part, Mrs. Stewart was encored in the "Lady-bird," and Mr. Henry Taylor in the song, "All is lost now;" but the warmest greeting was given to Mr. G. W. Nelson for the brilliant manner in which he executed a solo on the violin. Mr. Peter Staton was the conductor, and Mr. E. Knowles leader of the orchestra. We understand that the society intends at the next concert to give the *Messiah*.

BRIGHTON.—An Amateur Concert was given by Mr. George Braby, at the Odd Fellows' Hall, on the 23rd February, when an excellent and varied programme was provided. That the performance was highly satisfactory to the audience may be judged by the fact of eight out of eighteen pieces having been encored. The concert was conducted by Mr. Pymont.

CARDIGAN.—On the 2nd ult. two Concerts were given at the Guildhall by Mr. J. E. Welsford, the lately appointed Organist of Cilgerran, on which occasion Miss S. E. Harrison, Miss Ettie Salvidge, and Mr. J. Higgs were engaged. Miss Harrison and Miss Salvidge, both having excellent voices, the former a soprano and the latter a contralto, were eminently successful in their several solos, as was also Mr. Higgs, who displayed a good baritone voice, and was decidedly the favorite of the evening. Mr. Welsford's pianoforte performance at both concerts was much applauded; and the singing of the amateurs showed that the concert-giver had subjected them to a very careful training.

CLAPHAM.—A Concert was given here on Wednesday the 14th ult., in aid of the Church School Masters and Mistress's Benevolent Fund. The artists engaged were Miss Danielson, Miss Frankford, Messrs. Coker and Lewis Thomas, assisted by the choir of St. Saviour's Church, and conducted by Mr. A. Carder, whose brilliant performance of a selection of pieces from Mendelssohn and Weber was received with much applause. The choir sang a selection of Novello's glees with good effect. Mr. Thomas was, as usual, in excellent voice, and was encored in Mendelssohn's buffo song, "I'm a Roamer." Miss Danielson sang a romance, "Annabel Lee," composed for her by Alfred Carder, and in that and her other pieces her rich contralto voice told excellently. From the large attendance, there is no doubt that the institution benefited considerably.

CONSETT.—On the 15th ult. a Grand Musical Festival was given in Christ Church, on the occasion of the opening of the Organ. In addition to the well-trained Choir of Christ Church, Mr. Price (Tenor) and Mr. Lambert (Bass) were engaged as principals. Mr. Price was extremely effective in the solos "Comfort ye," from the *Messiah*, and "In native worth," from the *Creation*; and Mr. Lambert was equally successful in "Pro peccatis," from Rossini's *Stabat Mater*, and the recitative and air from the *Creation*, "Now Heaven in fullest glory shone." Mr. Potchecary,